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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))	Attorney Docket No.		100-14310 (P04927-C1)
	First Inventor		Terry Lines
	Title	Depletion-Mode Transistor That Eliminates The Need To Separately Set The Threshold Voltage Of The Depletion-Mode Transistor	
	Express Mail Label No.		EV342470547US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.	Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents ADDRESS TO: P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	031088 U.S. PTO 10/692255 
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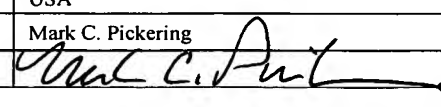
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification <i>Total Pages</i> 21 (preferred arrangement set forth below) - Descriptive title of the invention - Cross Reference to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) <i>Total Sheets</i> 20 (formal) 5. Oath or Declaration <i>Total Sheets</i> 2 a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed) i. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)</u> Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76	7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix) 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF) b. Specification Sequence Listing on: i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii. <input type="checkbox"/> paper c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies
ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS	
9. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) 10. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (when there is an assignee) 11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable) 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations 13. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized) 15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed) 16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent. 17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Copy of Power and Change of Address 37 CFR 1.63(d)(4) and Letter to Examiner</u>	

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: 09/824,653
 Prior application information: Examiner Eugene Lee Group Art Unit: 2815

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label	33402		or	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below
Name	Mark C. Pickering			
Address	P.O. Box 300			
City	Petaluma	State	CA	Zip Code
Country	USA	Telephone	(707) 762-5500	Fax
			(707) 762-5504	
Name(Print/Type)	Mark C. Pickering	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	36,239	
Signature			Date	October 22, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

FEE TRANSMITTAL**For FY 2004**

Patent Fees are subject to annual revision.

EV342470547US

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT \$770**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)**

1. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 502305

LAW OFFICES OF MARK C. PICKERING☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

2. ☒ Payment Enclosed:

☒ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Other**FEE CALCULATION****1. -BASIC FILING FEE**

LARGE ENTITY		SMALL ENTITY		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1001	770	2001	385	Utility	770
1002	340	2002	170	Design	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional	
SUBTOTAL (1)					770

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

		Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Total Claims	8 - 20 **	= 0	x 18	= \$ 0
Independent	1 - 3	= 0	x 86	= \$ 0
Multiple Dep.			*	= \$ 0

** or number previously paid, if greater; for Reissues, see below:

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	
1202	18	2202	9	Claim in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	84	2204	42	** Reissue ind. claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) \$0**SUBMITTED BY**

Law Offices of Mark C. Pickering
P.O. Box 300
Petaluma, CA 94953-0300
Telephone: (707) 762-5583
Facsimile: (707) 762-5504
Customer No. 33402

Complete if Known

Application Number	New
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Terry Lines
Examiner Name	Unknown
Group Art Unit	Unknown
Attorney Document No.	100-14310 (P04927-C1)

FEE CALCULATION (continued)**3. Additional Fees**

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code Fee

1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification
1812	2520	1812	2520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination
1804	920	1804	920	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action
1805	1840	1805	1840	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month
1254	1480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month
1255	2010	2255	1005	Extension for reply within fifth month
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing
1451	1510	1451	1510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive-unavoidable
1453	1330	2453	665	Petition to revive-unintentional
1501	1330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid **SUBTOTAL (3)** \$0

Date: 10-22-03

By: Mark C. Pickering, Reg. No. 36,239

Express Mail Number EV342470547US

PTO/SB/35 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**REQUEST AND CERTIFICATION
UNDER
35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i)**

First Named Inventor Terry Lines

Title Depletion-Mode Transistor That Eliminates The Need To Separately Set The Threshold Voltage of The Depletion-Mode Transistor

Atty Docket Number 100-14310 (P04927-C1)

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application **has not and will not be** the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing. I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).

10-22-03

Date

Mark C. Pickering
Signature

Mark C. Pickering
Reg. No. 36,239

Typed or printed name

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application **upon filing**.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications eighteen months after filing, the applicant **must** notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. **Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).**

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.213(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Continuation of 09/824,653

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Terry Lines

Appln. No.: Continuation of 09/824,653

Filed: Herewith

For: DEPLETION-MODE TRANSISTOR
THAT ELIMINATES THE NEED TO
SEPARATELY SET THE THRESHOLD
VOLTAGE OF THE DEPLETION-MODE
TRANSISTOR

Group Art Unit: 2815

Examiner: E. Lee

LETTER TO THE EXAMINER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a continuation of Application Serial Number 09/824,653 that was filed on April 3, 2003. The present continuation application presents claims 1-8 which are identical to claims 8-13 and 19-20, respectively, which were cancelled in the parent application.

In the parent application, the Examiner rejected claims 8-11, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ariizumi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,578,694). In previously rejecting the claims, the Examiner pointed to transistor 11 shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi as constituting the first transistor of claim 1 (previous claim 8), and transistor 12 shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi as constituting the second transistor of claim 1 (previous claim 8).

In an amendment in the parent application, applicant noted that applicant was unable to find any discussion within Ariizumi that teaches or suggests that the

LETTER TO THE EXAMINER

Atty. Docket No. 100-14310
(P04927-C1)

thickness of the gate oxide layer of transistor 11 is substantially less than the thickness of the gate oxide layer of transistor 12 as required by the claims.

In the Advisory Action mailed on August 20, 2003, the Examiner stated that if transistors 11, 12, and 13 were all the same type of transistor, it could be said that the gate oxides have the same thickness. Applicant previously noted, however, that at one point in the fabrication process, transistors 11, 12, and 13 appear to all be the same type of transistor.

The Ariizumi specification teaches:

"[g]ate insulation layers (19), (20) and (21) and gate electrodes (22), (23) and (24) are respectively formed on channel regions of MOSFETs (12), (11) and (13). . . . Arsenic ion is implanted in the channel regions of MOSFET (11) and (13) in order to change the threshold voltage in the negative direction and changes MOSFETs (11) and (13) to D type MOSFETs." (See column 4, lines 19-29 of Ariizumi.)

Applicant notes that to be changed to a D (depletion) type transistor, the transistor must have previously been an E (enhancement) type transistor. Transistor 12 is an enhancement type transistor. As a result, at one point during the fabrication process, MOSFETs 11, 12, and 13 were all E-type transistors. Since transistors 11, 12, and 13 were all the same type of transistor at one point, it can be said that the gate oxides have the same thicknesses as noted by the Examiner.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner also stated that transistors 11 and 13 are substantially different from transistor 12 because transistors 11 and 13 have much larger gates than transistor 12. However, the Examiner has not pointed to, nor is applicant's attorney aware, of any teaching that indicates that the size of a MOS transistor gate is inherently related to the thickness of the gate oxide layer. In other words, applicant's attorney is unaware of any teaching that indicates that as the size of the gate increases, the thickness of the gate oxide must also increase.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner further stated that Ariizuma shows that gate oxides 20 and 21 are thinner than gate oxide 19. Applicant notes, however,

that the claims do not recite that the first gate oxide is thinner than the second gate oxide, but instead require that the thickness of the first gate oxide be substantially less than the thickness of the second gate oxide. As noted above, the Ariizuma reference does not teach or suggest this limitation.

With further respect to claim 3 (previous claim 10), claim 3 requires that the third transistor be substantially non-conductive when zero volts are applied to the gate. As noted above, the Examiner pointed to transistor 11 shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi as constituting the first transistor of the claims, and transistor 12 shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi as constituting the second transistor of the claims. In addition, the Examiner appears to point to transistor 13 shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi as constituting the third transistor of the claims.

However, as shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi, transistor 13 is a depletion-mode device. As a result, it is not possible for transistor 13 to be substantially non-conductive when zero volts are applied to the gate because a depletion-mode device is conductive when zero volts are applied to the gate. From what applicant can determine, the Examiner did not address these comments in the Advisory Action.

With further respect to claim 6 (previous claim 13), claim 6 recites, in part,

"wherein the first and third transistors have source and drain regions of the same conductivity type, and the second transistor has source and drain regions of an opposite conductivity type."

As noted above, the Examiner pointed to transistor 11 shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi as constituting the first transistor of the claims, and transistor 12 shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi as constituting the second transistor of the claims. In addition, the Examiner appeared to point to transistor 13 shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi as constituting the third transistor of the claims.

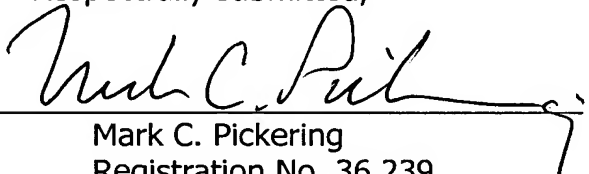
Applicant notes, however, that one skilled in the art would not be motivated to form transistor 13 shown in FIG. 4 of Ariizumi as a PMOS device because the invention of Ariizumi would no longer function as intended. Transistor 13 of FIG. 4

of Ariizumi is shown as a diode-connected NMOS transistor. As noted by Ariizumi, the gate of transistor 13 is protected from voltage spikes on the VCC terminal because the gate and drain of transistor 13 are connected together. (See column 3, lines 56-59 of Ariizumi.)

However, if a diode-connected PMOS transistor were used in lieu of NMOS transistor 13, the gate would no longer be protected. Thus, voltage spikes on the source of a PMOS transistor from the VCC terminal can destroy the gate. As a result, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to use a PMOS transistor in lieu of NMOS transistor 13. Thus, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to change transistor 13 (the third transistor) so that transistor 13 and transistor 12 (the second transistor) have opposite conductivity type. From what applicant can determine, the Examiner did not address these comments in the Advisory Action.

Dated: 10-22-03

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Mark C. Pickering
Registration No. 36,239
Attorney for Assignee

P.O. Box 300
Petaluma, CA 94953-0300
Telephone: (707) 762-5500
Facsimile: (707) 762-5504
Customer No. 33402